

FORT LARNED (NPS)

5 miles west of Larned on U.S. Route 156

From 1860 through the late 1870s, Fort Larned was the most important military post guarding the northern portion of the Santa Fe Trail. Abandoned in 1878, the fort became private property and the center of a large ranching operation. Now a National Historic Site, it survives as one of the nation's best-preserved mid-19th-century western military posts. Most of its stone buildings arranged around a quadrangle remain and the barracks is a visitors center. Other buildings have been restored to their 1868 appearance and open to the public.